



Rehabilitation technology is the application of technology to meet the needs of people with disabilities. Its purpose is to eliminate barriers and enhance opportunities in education, rehabilitation, employment, transportation, independent living and recreation. Assistive technology includes devices, aids and enhancements used in rehabilitation technology.

Rehabilitation technology services are provided for people with severe physical, learning, emotional, visual, hearing, neurological, neuromuscular and other disabilities. They may be provided:

- To enhance functional capacities by eliminating or minimizing functional limitations imposed by disability.
- To lead to and/or expand vocational rehabilitation, independent living rehabilitation, and employment opportunities by eliminating barriers.
- To conduct eligibility determinations and to develop an Individual Plan for Employment (IPE).

How are Services Provided?

- A person with a disability applies for Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) services to the MRC VR Program - or – contacts Independent Living Centers in their local area to inquire about MRC's Community Services (CS) Program Rehabilitation Technology Services.
- VR consumers are referred to the Rehabilitation Technology Department by their VR Counselor.
- IL consumers can also refer directly to MRC CS Assistive Technology Program (ATP) Regional Providers for rehabilitation technology services.
- The Rehabilitation Technology Department conducts necessary consultation and evaluations with the referring persons, clients, consumers, employers, agencies and other service providers.
- Recommendations will then be made to the referring persons and the consumer.
- The referring person will initiate follow-up with consultation from the Rehabilitation Technology Department as necessary.

What Services are Provided?

MRC's Rehabilitation Technology Department provides advice and consultation regarding the availability, quality and application of technologies such as technological aids and devices.

Financial Need: For Vocational Rehabilitation Program consumers, rehabilitation technology services provided as a rehabilitation service *under an IPE* are subject to financial need.

Rehabilitation technology services provided as *part of assessment* are not subject to financial need.

For Community Services Program consumers, ATP Providers will conduct a financial means test and determine the consumer's eligibility for services.

Services can include:

- Vehicle modification and inspection
- Adaptive driving evaluation
- Environmental control systems
- Assistive technology software
- Technical assistance to employers and service providers
- Ergonomics
- Adaptive housing
- Mobility devices
- Computer hardware adaptations
- Worksite modifications
- Training and follow-up on the use of any equipment provided
- Augmentative communication devices

For More information, Call the Rehabilitation Technology Department at 617-204-3822.

MRC Area Offices

Boston Downtown	617-357-8137
Brockton Area	508-583-1530
Brookline Area	617-739-9080
Fall River Area	508-678-9041
Fitchburg Area	978-345-1713
Greenfield Area	413-774-2326
Holyoke Area	413-536-8200
Hyannis Area	508-862-6600
Lawrence Area	978-685-1731
Lowell Area	978-458-4544
Malden Area	781-324-7160
Milford Area	508-792-7750
Natick Area	508-651-7531
New Bedford Area	508-993-6255
North Adams Area	413-663-5391
Pittsfield Area	413-499-2720
Plymouth Area	508-747-5922
Quincy Area	617-471-1600
Roxbury Area	617-442-5510
Salem Area	978-745-8085
Somerville Area	617-776-2662
Springfield Area	413-736-7296
Sturbridge Area	508-347-7661
Taunton Area	508-823-8141
Walpole Area	508-668-8912
Worcester Area	508-754-1757

Independent Living Centers

Ad-Lib, Pittsfield	413-442-7047
Boston Center for IL, Boston	617-338-6665
Center for Living & Working, Worcester	508-798-0350
CORD, Hyannis	508-775-8300
Metro-West CIL, Framingham	508-875-7853
Independence Associates, Taunton	508-880-5325
ILC of the North Shore & Cape Ann, Salem	978-741-0077
Northeast Independent Living Program, Lawrence	978-687-4288
Southeast Center for Independent Living, Fall River	508-679-9210
Stavros, Amherst	413-256-0473
Vivienne Thomson CIL Jamaica Plain	617-522-9840

OTHER MRC NUMBERS

Statewide Employment Serv.	617-204-3854
Services for the Deaf	617-204-3835 (TTY)
Independent Living Division	617-204-3851
Home Care Assistance	617-204-3853
Statewide Head Injury Program	617-204-3852
Consumer Involvement	617-204-3851

The Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (*ADA*) prohibits discrimination on the basis of disability in employment and public services provided by government agencies. If consumers or employees of the Massachusetts Rehabilitation Commission believe they have been discriminated against on the basis of disability, they should contact the Commission's Civil Rights Officer: Albert Jones, Jr., 27 Wormwood Street, Boston, MA 02210-1616, Telephone 617-204-3762 (*Voice*), 1-800-245-6543 (*TTY*).